

5 1. A method for providing driver-independent, printer-independent page manipulation options in a printing system, said method comprising:
creating a spool data file;
creating a Page-Independent Spool File (PISF) index file from said spool data file;
allowing manipulation of said PISF index file to effect document page manipulation options; and
accessing said PISF index file to execute a print job.

10 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said spool data file is a Microsoft Windows Job Description File.

15 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation comprises changing a print job to a format selected from the group consisting of booklet, Nup, reverse order, duplex, tablet, and PrintClub.

20 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file comprises print job commands, page commands and page data.

25 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file provides access to at least one Enhanced Metafile (EMF) file.

30 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file provides access to at least one raw format file.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing the order of document pages.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing the scale and placement of document pages.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing collation options.

10. A method for providing document formatting options in a printing system, said method comprising:
 - creating a Page-Independent Spool File (PISF) index file;
 - manipulating said PISF index file to effect document formatting options; and
 - accessing said manipulated PISF index file to execute a print job.
11. The method of claim 12 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished with a print processor.
12. The method of claim 12 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a spooler.
13. The method of claim 12 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a print assistant between a driver and a printer.
14. A method for adding document formatting capability to a printing system, said method comprising:
 - initiating a print job for a document;
 - creating a PISF index file;
 - modifying said PISF index file, from said print processor, to make said print job conform to said user input; and
 - accessing said PISF index file, from said print processor, to obtain document formatting information for printing.
15. The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print processor.
16. The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a spooler.
17. The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print system component in a print system between a driver and a printer.

18. A printing system with driver-independent, printer-independent document formatting, said system comprising:

5 a print processor comprising:
 an indexer for creating a page-independent index file;
 a modifier for modifying said index file to effect document
 formatting options; and
 a reader for accessing said manipulated index file to execute a
10 modified print job.

19. A computer-readable medium comprising instructions for driver-independent, printer-independent document formatting, said instructions comprising the acts of:

15 creating a page-independent index file;
 manipulating said index file to effect document formatting options; and
 accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.

20. A computer data signal embodied in an electronic transmission, said signal having the function of driver-independent, printer-independent document formatting, said signal comprising instructions for:

25 creating a page-independent index file;
 manipulating said index file to effect document formatting options; and
 accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.